MINUTES

OF SOME LATE

CONVERSATIONS,

BETWEEN THE

REV. JOHN WESLEY, M. A.

AND OTHERS.

DUBLIN:

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MDCCLXXXIX.

MINUTES, &c.

DUBLIN, July 3d, 1789.

QUEST. 1. WHAT Preachers are *admitted* this Year?

ANSW. Thomas Verner and John Dinnen.

Q. 2. Who *remain on trial?*

A. Samuel Bates, David Gordon, Thomas Roberts, John Gilles, Samuel Moorhead, John Grace, Andrew Jefferys, John Black, William Johnſon, John Darragh, Francis Armſtrong, William M'Cornock, Thomas Hewett, John Melcombſon, Thomas Kerr, John Weſt, James Lyons, James M'Mullen, Alex. Moore, Matthew Stewart, Thomas Elliot, Andrew Hamilton, Robert Smith, Nebuchadnezzar Lee, William Hamilton, John Stephenſon, Daniel Graham, Michael Murphy, William Wilſon, and David Barrowclough.

Q. 3 Who are *admitted on trial?*

A. William Brandon, George Donovan, Samuel Woods, Thomas Ridgway, James M'Quigg, Thomas Patterſon, Andrew Hamilton, jun. James Irwin, Thomas Worrell, and Robert M'Cay.

Q. 4. Who have *died* this Year?

A. *Hugh Pue*, a zealous pious young Man, who ſuffered much in his Illneſs, but died happy in God.

Francis

Francis Frazier, a good young Man, and a good Preacher.

And *John Stephens*, who being little more than a Child in Years, was a Man both in Knowledge and Piety, and went hence in the full triumph of Faith.

Q. 5. Are there any objections to any of our Preachers?

A. They were examined one by one.

Q. 6. Who have desisted from travelling?

A. John Howe.

Q. 7. How are the Preachers stationed this Year?

A. As follows:

1. *Dublin*,	A Preacher from England, Charles Boone.
2. *Wicklow*,	John Gilles.
3. *Wexford*,	Thomas Kerr, Robert Smith.
4. *Waterford*,	Robert Bridge, John West.
5. *Cork*,	John Kerr, Thomas Roberts.
6. *Bandon*,	James Rogers, Gustavus Armstrong.
7. *Limerick*,	Richard Condy, Andrew Jefferys, J. M'Quigg.
8. *Birr*,	William West, John Darragh.
9. *Castlebar*,	Hugh Moore, Thomas Verner,
10. *Athlone*,	John Dinnen, Tho. Davis.
11. *Longford*,	Thomas Barbor, John Miller.
12. *Sligo*,	John Black, Michael Murphy.

13. *Ballyconnell*,	George Brown, Alexander Moore, John Stephenſon, John Price, Supernumerary.
14. *Cavan*,	Joſeph Armſtrong, James Irwin.
15. *Clones*,	Matthew Stewart, William Wilſon, Tho. Ridgway.
16. *Brookborough*,	William M'Cornock, James Lyons, Andrew Hamilton, ſen.
17. *Enniſkillen*,	Tho. Hetherington, Robt. M'Cay.
18. *Ballyſhannon*,	Samuel Moorhead, William Hamilton, Francis Armſtrong.
19. *Liſleen*,	James Rennick, Thomas Elliot, Andrew Hamilton, jun.
20. *Omagh*,	Samuel Bates, Nebuchadnezzar Lee.
21 *Charlemount*,	John Crook, Jas. M'Mullen.
22. *Londonderry*,	John Grace, Tho. Worrel.
23. *Coleraine*,	David Gordon, Tho. Patterſon, Samuel Woods.
24. *Belfaſt*,	Samuel Mitchell, Nehemiah Price, Wm Brandon.
25. *Liſburn*,	Matthias Joyce, William Johnſon.
26. *Downpatrick*,	John Melcombſon, Daniel Graham.
27. *Tanderagee*,	David Barrowclough, Tho. Hewett, Geo. Donovan.
28. *Newry*,	Walter Griffith, James M'Donald.

Q. 8. How many Wives are to be provided for?

A. Fifteen, and Siſter Stephenſon, £6.

Q. 9. How many of theſe are to be provided for by the Circuits?

A. Nine: namely, a Siſter from England, Boone, Weſt, Dinnen, G. Brown, Stewart, Rennick, M'Donald, Griffith, and £8. for a tenth.

Q. 10. In what proportion do the Circuits provide for theſe?

A. As follows:

	Engliſh.		
Dublin,	£.24	0	0
Wexford,	2	0	0
Waterford,	3	0	0
Cork,	16	0	0
Bandon,	1	10	0
Limerick,	5	0	0
Birr,	1	10	0
Caſtlebar	2	0	0
Athlone,	6	0	0
Longford,	7	0	0
Sligo,	1	0	0
Ballyconnell,	2	0	0
Clones,	6	0	0
Cavan,	4	0	0
Brookborough,	2	10	0
Enniſkillen,	3	0	0
Ballyſhannon,	1	10	0
Liſleen,	1	10	0
Omagh,	1	0	0
Charlemount,	4	0	0
Londonderry,	2	0	0
Coleraine,	4	0	0
Belfaſt,	4	0	0
	103	10	0

Liſburn,

Brought over	103	10	0
Liſburn, - - -	6	0	0
Downpatrick, - -	1	0	0
Tanderagee, - -	3	0	0
Newry, - - -	1	10	0
In all, £	115	0	0

Q. 11. How are the other ſix Wives, namely, Siſter Condy, Crook, Price, Hetherington, Joyce, J. Armſtrong, to be provided for?

A. From England.

Q. 12 What Numbers are in the Societies?

A. Dublin, - -	1000
Wexford, - -	221
Waterford, - -	246
Cork, - -	600
Bandon, - -	220
Limerick, - -	350
Birr, - -	150
Caſtlebar, - -	200
Athlone, - -	540
Longford, - -	400
Sligo, - -	300
Ballyconnell, - -	880
Clones, - -	1268
Brookborough, - -	757
Enniſkillen, - -	520
Ballyſhannon, -	570
Killybeggs, -	480
Liſleen, - -	500
Omagh, - -	330
Charlemount, - -	1100
Londonderry, -	288
	10920

Coleraine,

Brought over		10920
Coleraine,	- -	640
Belfaſt,	- -	450
Liſburn,	- -	800
Tanderagee,	- -	810
Newry,	- -	390
Total,		14010

Q. 13. What is the Kingſwood Collection?

A. £. 48 17 6.

Q. 14. What is contributed to the Preacher's Fund?

A. £. 74 12 0.

Q. 15. What is allowed out of it?

A. To John Price, - 12 0 0
John Breden, - 12 0 0
Mary Pennington, - 12 0 0

Q. 16. What is contributed for the Yearly Expences?

A. £. 80 4 0.

Q. 17. How was it expended?

A. In ſupplying the Deficiencies of the Preachers' Salaries, and thoſe of their Wives and Children.

Q. 18. What is contributed for the foreign Miſſions?

A. £. 62 0 0

Q. 19. What Houſes are to be built this Year?

A. One at Dunmanway, Newbliſs, Brookborough, Liſleen, Belfaſt, Bangor and Ballyblack.

Q. 20. Does it belong to the Conference to pay the little allowance for the Wives and Children of the travelling Preachers, or the Shoeing

ing of their Horſes, Letters on Buſineſs, or other travelling Expences?

A. By no means, the Conference cannot do it, they have no Fund for it; every Circuit is to pay them at the Quarterly Meeting out of the firſt Money that is brought, and each Circuit may have two or more Preachers, as they can afford. N. B. We don't engage to ſupply Deficiencies.

The Order of the Stewards paying Circuit-expences —Wives, Children, Preachers, Carriage of Luggage, Letters on Buſineſs, Shoeing Horſes, Expences to and from Conference, and alſo to give what is wanting to take the Preachers who have travelled with them to their new Circuits.

Q. 21. Have the weekly and quarterly Contribution been duly made, in all our Societies?

A. In many it has been ſhamefully neglected. To remedy this,

1. Let every Aſſiſtant remind every Society, that this was our original Rule, Every Member contributes One Penny weekly, (unleſs he is in extreme Poverty,) and One Shilling quarterly. Explain the reaſonableneſs of this.

2. Let every Leader receive the weekly Contribution from each Perſon in his Claſs.

3 Let the Aſſiſtant aſk every Perſon, at changing their Tickets, Can you afford to obſerve our Rule? And receive what he is able to give.

Q. 22. The Scripture ſays, *If any Man that is called a Brother be a fornicator, or covetous, with ſuch an one no not to eat.* And *put away from among yourſelves that wicked perſon.* This is an expreſs command: and it is of unſpeakable importance. Theſe *Money-lovers* are the peſt of every

every Chriſtian-Society. They have been the main cauſe of deſtroying every Revival of Religion. They will deſtroy *us*, if we do not put them away. But how ſhall we know them, without the miraculous diſcernment of Spirits?

A. 1. By their own Confeſſion. Tell any one alone, with all tenderneſs, "I am to give an account of your ſoul to God. Enable me to do it with joy. I am afraid you are covetous. Anſwer me a few Queſtions, in order to remove that fear."

2. By their Fruits. For inſtance. A Man not worth a Shilling enters our Society. Yet he freely gives a Penny a Week. Five Years after, he is worth ſcores of Pounds. He gives a Penny a Week ſtill. I muſt think this Man covetous, unleſs he aſſures me, he beſtows his Charity ſome other way. For every one is covetous, whoſe beneficence does not increaſe in the ſame proportion as his ſubſtance.

Q. 23. Can any Thing be done with regard to the Books?

A. 1. Sell no Books on truſt, if you do, you muſt pay for them yourſelf. 2. Make the Circuit Steward pay for the Tickets which are uſed on the Circuit, at the Chriſtmas Quarterly Meeting. N. B. Mr. Weſley will not be accountable for any loſs.

Q. 24. A common Report has run through Ireland, that the Methodiſts were reſolved to ſeparate from the Church! Is that Report true?

A. Nothing can be more falſe. Although Mr. Weſley believes it right to continue the Sunday-morning Service in Dublin, yet he never had any deſign of having it in any other part of the Kingdom, not that he could be juſtly

juſtly complained of if he did, ſeeing he is a regularly ordained Miniſter. He thinks it needful to obſerve further, that the Methodiſts never will ſeparate from the Church, till God calls him hence.

N. B. Except in extraordinary Caſes, every Preacher is to go to Bed before ten o'Clock.

To our Societies in IRELAND.

Fifty years ago and for ſeveral years following, all our Preachers were ſingle men, when in proceſs of time a few of them married. Thoſe with whom they laboured, maintained both them and their wives, there being then no ſettled allowance either for the one or the other. But above thirty years ago, it was found moſt convenient to fix a ſtated allowance for both, and this was found by the Circuits where they were ſtationed; till one year ſome of the Circuits complained of poverty. Dr. *Coke* and I ſupplied what was wanting. The next year, the number of Wives increaſing, three or four of them were ſupplied out of the Contingent Fund. This was a bad precedent, for more and more Wives were thrown upon this Fund, till it was likely to be ſwallowed up thereby. We could think of no way to prevent this, but to conſider the ſtate of our Societies in *England* and *Ireland*, and to beg the Members of each Circuit to give us that aſſiſtance, which they can eaſily do without hurting their families.

Within

Within theſe fifty years, the ſubſtance of the Methodiſts is increaſed in proportion to their numbers. Therefore if you are not ſtraitened in your own bowels, this will be no grievance, but you will cheerfully give food and raiment to thoſe, who give up all their time, and ſtrength, and labour to your ſervice.

JOHN WESLEY.

Dublin, July 3. 1789.

Q. 25. When and where is the next Conference to be held?

A. At Dublin, on the firſt Friday in July, 1790.

FINIS.